

PRESS REPORTS ON UKRAINE AND UKRAINIANS.

THIRTY MILLION UKRAINIANS known as the Ukraine was a part of the Russian Empire, the close of the World War, when the empire was demolished and the Bolsheviks were rising to power, the Ukrainians in Odessa and Kiev under Petlura and other patriotic leaders sought to form the independent state of Ukraine. At the same time Pilsudski and other Polish leaders sought to attach again the Russian Ukraine to Poland; but the Communists of White Russia, proved too powerful for these confederations and the Russian Ukraine was organized as one of the federated states of Communist Russia.

By Fred Hogue.

The latest political propaganda coming to me from Central and Eastern Europe relates to the establishment of the independent political state of Ukraine on the northern and western shores of the Black Sea, with a capital at Odessa or Kiev in the Russian Ukraine.

Self-determination, where people of the same racial stock are in a preponderant majority is the rallying cry of the Ukrainians in Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Rumania. The territory in question comprises 585,700 kilometers, with a population of 40,955,000, of which 21,155,000, or 76 percent, are of Ukrainian stock. This territory is divided politically at present as follows: in Russia 452,000 kilometers, with a gross population of 32,000,000; in Poland 113,700 kilometers, with a gross population of 7,700,000, of which 4,700,000, or 60 percent, are Ukrainians; in Czechoslovakia, 12,600 kilometers, of which 372,000, or 63 percent, are Ukrainians; in Rumania, 8,000 kilometers, which a gross population of 600,000 of which 483,000, or 73 percent, are Ukrainians.

At present, the Ukrainian stock is concentrated in the Ukraine and Tartar stock in the Ukraine. When Polish power was at its zenith in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, all of what is now the Russian Ukraine was a part of the commonwealth of Poland. Its domain extended from the Baltic to the Black Sea and from the summits of the Carpathian Mountains to the heart of what is now called White Russia. In this territory were included Courland, Lithuania, Mecklenburg, Brandenburg, Great Poland, Little Poland, Black Russia, Red Russia, Silesia, Polesia, Volhynia, the great wilderness formed in the peninsula of the Dniester and Dnieper rivers. This wilderness was the habitat of the Cossacks, Zaporozhians and Tartars.

But the Cossacks, Zaporozhians and Tartars, the wild borderers of the southern wilderness were not docile subjects of the Polish crown. They lived on war and plunder, joining the Turks in invasion of the crown land of the Polish commonwealth, and the Poles in the invasion of Turkey. In the spring of 1648 came the revolt of the Cossacks, Zaporozhians and Tartars against the commonwealth. They were led by Hmelnytsky, a Cossack, and supported by the khans of the Turkish Sultan. This revolt lasted with varying fortunes into the second generation and the eighteenth century found the commonwealth deprived of all the fertile lands that now form the Russian Ukraine.

This revolt was not the end of independent Ukrainian state, but it had been the dream of centuries. For more than a century what is now the Ukraine was a part of the Russian Empire. The formation of an independent Ukrainian state, for the purpose of dividing and weakening Great Russia, was a part of the foreign policy of Germany. In November, 1917, a Ukrainian National Congress proclaimed the independence of the Ukrainian state. This new state was promptly recognized by Imperialist Germany. Ukrainian delegates attended the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk in February, 1918, and signed there a separate peace with Germany. Later that year German troops went to the aid of the Ukrainians when they were fighting the soviets. They occupied Kiev for a time, but when Germany was beaten on the western front and petitioned for an armistice, the German troops were withdrawn and the soviets armies came south from Moscow and wiped out revolt in the Ukraine. During the spring of 1920 the newly constituted Polish state recognized the independence of the Ukrainian state. Petlura, the Ukrainian leader, proposed to Marshal Pilsudski that Polish-Ukrainian alliance. At the same time Petlura signed at Warsaw in April, 1920, Marshal Pilsudski led a Polish army into the Ukraine in May to support the Ukrainian people, and for a time the Poles occupied Kiev. Pilsudski proposed a manifesto to the Ukrainian people in which he declared that the Polish troops would remain in the Ukraine only until the Ukrainian government was established and was actually functioning.

At the same time Petlura issued a manifesto calling on the Ukrainian people to take up arms in the defense of their liberty. But the inhabitants of the southern part of the Ukraine did not trust the alliance with the Poles. Those of Odessa and the whole Black Sea coast feared that the alliance was only a pretext by which the Poles would make themselves the political masters of the Ukraine. Pilsudski has since said: "If I had found an echo to my manifesto in the Ukraine, the map of Europe would have been changed."

Meanwhile, soviet Russia attacked the Poles in the north. They evacuated Kiev and the Red troops compelled Petlura to fly across the border.

Recently I discussed this page of Ukrainian contemporary history with a Russian officer, who was a native of Odessa. He was in Odessa when the Ukrainian troops came in 1918 and in Kiev when the Poles came in 1920. He fought with Denikin and Wrangel against the soviets, but he was opposed to an alliance with foreign powers.

"When I was in the German troops marching down the main street of Odessa," he said, "and the German eagles flying, I found my sympathies turning to the Bolsheviks; for, after all, they were not and their troops were Russia's hereditary enemies. I then felt that Russia would be Red or that there would be no longer a Russia, that what the Germans occupied they would never release. Red Russia, after a few years, might turn white again, but the Germans, once admitted, would never withdraw."

"The case of Ukrainian independence was hopeless. The Ukrainians were willing to fight under Petlura for a few years, so long as they fought alone; but they would not trust an alliance with either Germany or Poland. Alone, they were too weak to withstand the power of the northern soviets. Our people of the Ukraine could not forget their history and the legends of their ancestors. They recalled that prior to 1648 they had been treated as slaves by the Polish nobility, who claimed all the lands. They remembered the battles and the battlefields of the Cossack war against the Poles and they would extend no welcome to their ancient enemies."

"The memory of ancient feuds lives long in Eastern Europe. How the people speak and act through the living!"

This hereditary enemy between Cossacks and Poles renders doubtful an alliance of the two against soviet Russia.

If the Ukrainians, scattered among four nations and living under four different flags, were to be united as a nation, the territory they would occupy would be greater than that of France or Germany, and the population would be about equal that of France. Soviet Russia would be the greatest loser in territory, population and wealth. Russia would lose 30 percent of its most fertile lands that produce 50 percent of the cereal crops of Russian soil. It would lose two-thirds of its developed coal, that of the Donets Basin; it would lose the great iron deposits of Krivoy-Rog; it would lose Odessa, its great Black Sea port that the Russians of the old regime called "the jewel city of the world." It is becoming apparent that this loss is threatened by continued misgovernment and military oppression in soviet Russia.

(By courtesy of "Los Angeles Times" and Mr. Fred Hogue.)

(Los Angeles Times, July 23, 1932.)

Хоч бурі йдуть і громи б'ють
І в горю серце тоне —
Та вже не все нам вражають,
Не розділять кордони.

Бо все ємоє єсть з нами
Зілля на нашій полі,
Кохання твоє в серці
У намірі "Школя" Школя.

Ніякий культурний наряд не може обійтися без шкільного Товариства, яке в національній державі стає квітучою державою-освітнього апарату, а в мішаний — доповнює її завданнями, доповнює її завданнями, доповнює її завданнями.

Скількиж більше значення для бездержавного українського народу має "Рідна Школа" в старому краю! Памятати на це!

Як і діваст майже задушно, я в того ноталя, а він розділять кім жас.

Це, мої панове, все, що я мав вам сказати.

В.

П'ятого дня взяв перо в руку й написав:

"До Пані Графінї Б. Пані!"

Як Вам відома, я постановив був оженитися з Вашою найдорожчою дочкою. Так не роздумав одружиться — їй вісімнадцять, мені п'ятдесят два роки — було б справним безсумнісчастям для біденької дитини; вона впаде би жертвою безсумнісного вираження.

Я зрікаюся, Пані, руки Вашої доньки та прошу Вас, щоб Ви прийняли до себе хлопця доброго й талановитого, бузочного мистця, якому я сьогодні записую мілон франків.

Будь ласка, Пані, прийняти вислови найбільшого поважання до Вас.

Шестий день... Семий день... восьмий...

Закінчення.

Прошло і тридцять дев'ять днів.

Нещасний полагодив усі справи й так каже до себе:

— Я вже нікому не винен ні чента, скільки лишень я лише центів, скільки треба заплатити за похорон. Можу сподіюватися, що я тепер піду до міра.

— А тепер піду до міра, міра приладити все до мого похорону.

І пішов.

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